COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION, 1121

Friday, *the* $\frac{\textit{30th November 1945}}{\textit{15th Vrischigam 1121}}$

The Council met in the Council Hall, at half past eleven of the clock with the Hon'ble President (Sir G. T. Boag, K.C.I.E., C.S.I.) in the Chair.

All the members excepting Messrs. T. K. Nayar, C. N. Ittiravi Nambudiri and Mrs. Dhakshayani Velayudhan, were present.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

HILL PADDY DEPARTMENT

161. Mr. V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan *(Oorakam):* Will Government be pleased to state,—

Whether they have received any complaint regarding corruption in the Hill Paddy Department of the Government in the years 1118 and 1119 and if so whether they have taken any action and with what result?

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Rural Development):*

Yes. Enquiries were conducted on the complaints received and disciplinary action taken when the complaints of corruption were proved true. As a result of the enquiries conducted, one Supervisor was removed from service.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. ആർ. കൃഷ്ണനെഴുത്തശ്ശൻ: എത്ര ആളുകളുടെ പേരിലാണ് ഈ കമ്പ്ലെൻറ് ഉണ്ടായത്?

മിസ്റ്റർ പറമ്പി ലോനപ്പൻ: നാലാളുകളുടെ പേരിൽ.

മിസ്റ്റർ ജോസ് കെ. വള്ളീസ്സ്: ആരാണ് ഈ എൻകയറി നടത്തിയത്?

മിസ്റ്റർ പറമ്പി ലോനപ്പൻ: Assistant Supervisor of Hill paddy scheme.

മിസ്റ്റർ ജോസ് കെ. വള്ളീസ്സ്: കറക്കാരനാണെന്നു് കണ്ടുപിടിച്ചു് റിമൂവ് ചെയ്ത ആളുടെ പേരെന്താണ്?

മിസ്റ്റർ പറമ്പി ലോനപ്പൻ: അച്ചുതമേനോൻ എന്നൊരാളാണ്.

Mr. K. S. Panicker *(Trichur-Ezhuvas):* What is the nature of the complaints?

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Rural Development):* At the time of the Inspection and checking the number of coolies in the muster roll there was discrepancy of 34 coolies.

മിസ്റ്റർ ജോസ് കെ. വള്ളീസ്സ്: കൂലിക്കാക്കു് പണം കൊടുക്കാത്തതിനെപ്പറ്റി വല്ല കമ്പ്ലയിൻറും ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ പറമ്പിലോനപ്പൻ. ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ടു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ ജോസ് കെ. വള്ളീസ്സ്: അതിനെപ്പറ്റി അന്വേഷിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ പറമ്പി ലോനപ്പൻ: വേറെ ഒരാളുടെപേരിൽ അങ്ങിനെ ഒരു കമ്പ്ലെൻറ് ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ടു്. അതിനെപ്പറ്റി അന്വേഷണം നടത്തിയതിൽ അതു തെളിഞ്ഞിട്ടില്ല.

Mr. V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan *(Oorakam):* Were any persons awarded lesser punishment than this dismissal from service?

മിസ്റ്റർ പറമ്പി ലോനപ്പൻ: ഒരാളുടെ പക്കൽനിന്നു് കുറെ സംഖ്യ കിട്ടീട്ടുണ്ടു്.

Mr. V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan *(Oorakam):* Is it a punishment?

മിസ്റ്റർ പറമ്പി ലോനപ്പൻ: വേറെ ഒരാളെ വാർണിംഗ് ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: വിതക്കുവാൻ കൊടുക്കേണ്ട വിത്തു വിറ്റു പണംവകയിച്ചതായിട്ടു വല്ല കമ്പ്ലൈൻറും ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

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Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Rural Development)*: It is an old affair and much useful purpose is not likely to be served. Most of the employees were temporary persons. It is very difficult to get evidence, especially to collect evidence on the whole scheme, and I think that no useful purpose will be served if an enquiry is conducted at a very late stage like this. You will remember that this Hill Paddy Scheme was taken up at a time when there was great pressure for food and this cultivation was in forest areas, where failure of cultivation may be due to various causes. It will not be possible at this time to find out exactly the causes. Therefore it will not serve much useful purpose.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെന്റിൽനിന്നു കരികൃഷിപടം നടത്തിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ പറമ്പി ലോനപ്പൻ: ഇല്ല.

Mr. V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan *(Oorakam)*: Is this the only reason, that is, being too late?

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Rural Development)*: I mentioned more than one reason.

162. Mr. V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan *(Oorakam)*: Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the number of implements of each variety that were purchased by the Government for their Hill Paddy Cultivation;

(*b*) whether the implements have been disposed of and if so, how?

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Rural Development)*:

(*a*) Please see the statement appended *(Appendix I)*

(*b*) Yes. Details have been furnished in the Statement appended to (a).

Mr. K. T. Achuthan *(Ezhuvas-Mukundapuram)*: May I know whether the Government were able to satisfy the whole demand of the rural population in selling this?

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Rural Development)*: No. The whole demand is not satisfied.

Mr. V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan *(Oorakam)*: May I know how were the implements disposed of? Was it by auction sale or by any other private arrangement?

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Rural Development)*: I want notice.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: We to that Appendix item 12—Mammatties, it is stated that have been sold to the ryots. Is it not to a group of ryots in very large numbers? What is the approximate nature of 2,439?

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Rural Development)*: I have not clearly understood the question put by the Hon'ble Member.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Was there not a case of a very large number of mammatties being given at favourable prices to one association or some group of persons who understood to cultivate a large extent?

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Rural Development)*: We have no information at present. I will collect the information and give details latter on.

Mr. V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan *(Oorakam)*: My question was, how were the implements disposed of, whether it is by auction or by any other method?

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Rural Development)*: That information can be given later. I am not in a position to give now.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: May I know, whether a large number of mammatties was not sold to a class of persons who understood to do "കൃഷി" in place of "കാടുകൃഷി"?

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Rural Development)*: You are putting the same question in a different language.

Mr. President: The Hon'ble Minister has already answered to the effect that he has not got the information here.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: I am putting the same question because I do not get an answer.

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മിസ്റ്റർ പറമ്പി ലോനപ്പൻ: അങ്ങിനെ ഒരു കമ്പളെൻറ് ഉണ്ടായിട്ടില്ല.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: അസിസ്റ്റണ്ട് സൂപ്രഡണ്ടിൻെറപേരിൽ ഇങ്ങിനെ ഒരു കമ്പളെൻറ് ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ പറമ്പി ലോനപ്പൻ: I want notice.

Mr. V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan *(Oorakam):* Are the Government aware that corruption was rampant among officers in this department?

Mr. President: That, I think, is asking for an expression of opinion.

Mr. V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan *(Oorakam):* No, Sir, it is for information.

Mr. President: "Rampant" is a word which may carry many different meanings.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuhassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know who this officer is who has been given this maximum punishment?

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Rural Development):* K. Achuutha Menon.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know whether there was not a signed petition against that officer for having utilised for his own purposes large sums of money?

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Rural Development):* I want notice.

Mr. V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan *(Oorakam):* Are the Government aware that corruption has to a large extent been responsible for the loss in the Hill Paddy scheme?

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Rural Development):* No.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: ഹിൽപാഡിസ്കീമനുസരിച്ച് വെട്ടിട്ടുള്ള മരങ്ങൾ കരിയാക്കി വിറ്റിട്ടുള്ളതായി സെക്കൻറ്-ഇൻ-കമാണ്ടരുടെപേരിൽ വല്ല കമ്പളെൻറ് ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ പറമ്പി ലോനപ്പൻ. നോട്ടീസ് വേണം.

മിസ്റ്റർ ജോസ് കെ. വള്ളിസ്സ്: കൊയ്ത നെല്ലിനെപ്പറ്റി ശരിയായ സൂപ്രവിഷ്യൻ ഇല്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ട് കൂലിക്കാർ അവരവരുടെ വീടുകളിലേക്ക് കറ്റയോടുകൂടി കൊണ്ടുപോയിട്ടുള്ളതു ഗവൺമെണ്ടിനറിയാമോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ പറമ്പി ലോനപ്പൻ: നോട്ടീസ്സുവേണം.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: ഹിൽപാഡിസ്കീമിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ച് ശരിയായിട്ടുള്ള ഒരു അന്വേഷണം ഗവൺമെണ്ട് നടത്താമോ?

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Rural Development):* I want notice.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* What were the specific charges proved against this officer who was dealt with by the Government?

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Rural Development):* The number of coolies on the muster roll was found less than the number actually engaged.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Was that the only charge against that officer?

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Rural Development):* That was the only charge.

Mr. V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan *(Oorakam):* Was there not a demand that a regular enquiry must be conducted into the allegations regarding corruption in this Department?

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Rural Development):* Yes. Of course, a demand was made in this house.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know, why this officer was not prosecuted?

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Rural Developmemt):* I cann't give an adequate answer now.

Mr. Puthur Achutha Menon *(Kattur):* Does this House represent the public?

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Rural Development):* To a very large extent this House represents the public.

Mr. V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan *(Oorakam):* May I know whether Government considered the demand for an enquiry?

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Rural Development):* Government did not make any decision or consider about it.

Mr. Puthur Achutha Menon *(Kattur):* Where is the objection of the Government to conduct an enquiry when it is brought to the notice of Government that there was rampant corruption?

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APPENDIX I

(Please see answer to Question No. 162.)

No.	Name of implements	Number purchased	Number sold to Departments	Number sold to Ryots	Remarks
1	Spade ..	128	22 Agricultural	106	
2	Naikken spade ..	26	10 do.	16	
3	Sickles ..	70	41 do.	29	
4	Cutting knives ..	25		25	
5	Forks ..	44	15 do.	29	
6	Hammer ..	1		1	
7	Crow bar ..	2	2 do.		
8	Cross cut saws ..	6	5 Forest	1	
9	Felling knives ..	14		14	
10	Knives ..	36		36	
11	Knives with curved blades ..	12		12	
12	Mammatties ..	2872	421 Agricultural 12 Irinjalakkuda Municipality	2439	
13	Axes ..	668	62 Agricultural	606	
14	Pick axe ..	57	20 Forest	37	
15	Small axe ..	100	4 Agricultural	96	
16	Vettukathies ..	2084	50 do. 12 Irinjalakkuda Municipality	2022	
17	Rake ..	84	9 Agricultural	75	
18	Digging hoes ..	1051	263 do.	815	
19	Weeding hooks ..	209	..	209	

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